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GUN - CALIBR



• QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF
SASKATCHEWAN GUN
COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION •

SASKATCHEWAN GUN COLLECTORS' ASSOCIATION

Founded 1961.

A patriotic, educational and non-profit organization of Canadian citizens dedicated to the collecting and research of firearms. Membership in the S.G.C.A. is open to any reputable Canadian citizen.

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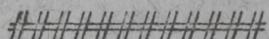
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EDITORIAL

It is just a year and a few days since the Saskatchewan Gun Collectors' Association had its founding meeting in Regina. It has been exciting to see the Association grow. It has been rewarding to watch the bonds of common interest and fellowship develop among the members. Our "community" of membership has thrust its borders far beyond the Province of Saskatchewan to where they now reach from ocean-to-ocean and deep into the United States.

We will look back on 1961 as the "founding year." We now look to 1962 as a year of dynamic growth and consolidation. In this, each and every one of us has a role. We need members. Let's "go out and get 'em." More members mean a stronger Association and if we are to meet the challenges of the future--to protect the interests of the arms collecting fraternity--we must be able to speak with a strong and unified voice. Our "target" this year is 200 members. If each of us brings in one new member this objective will be easily met and passed.

We would be remiss at this point if we did not express our appreciation for the enthusiastic support you have given us. I would like to depart for a moment from the editorial "we" and say personally that I have found editing GUN TALK a deeply gratifying experience and to the contributors who have come through so nobly and to all the members I say, "thanks".

From now on, Shane Kirby will edit GUN TALK. Shane needs no introduction. In addition to his many contributions to our pages, he has ably assisted in the work of building our journal into what is now acknowledged as Canada's leading arms collectors' publication.

In your letters to us, we have detected a growing pride in GUN TALK as it has taken shape and assumed stature. It is only natural that you would want GUN TALK to become the leading journal of its kind on the entire continent and so best meet your needs. In working towards this objective, Shane is going to need all the help we can give him. Let's get on with the job.

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COVER PICTURE: This replica of an early eighteenth century English "Tower" flintlock pistol was made in Japan and is remarkably accurate in detail. Barrel length is nine inches. The lock, barrel and ramrod are of steel, the trigger guard, side-plate, buttcap and furrel, of brass. These "Tower" replicas are now being imported and sold in Canada by several arms dealers.

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THE MEMBERS *White*

Eldersley, Sask.

Editor,

I am enclosing my membership renewal fee.

I have a .32 RF five-shot, single action Hopkins and Allen revolver, with spur trigger, marked XL No. 3. I would like to find out how old it is.

Also have a .50 Express M1886 Winchester and would like to get shells for it.

My collection includes the following: M1886, Cal. 40-82; M1886, Cal. .50 Express; .35 self-loader Win. M1905; .43 Mauser single shot, M1871; .32 RF Stevens Favorite; 12 ga. Win. M1897 shotgun; 12 ga. Belgian bolt action single shot shotgun; and a long barrelled M1893 Marlin, Cal. 30-30.

I enjoy GUN TALK.

W. Vanstellandt.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Revolvers like the one you describe were made mostly from about 1869 (when the Rollin White patent rights expired) on through the 1870's. It is hard to put an exact date of manufacture on a weapon such as yours but I would suggest it was made in the early 1870's. Sources you might try for Cal. 50 Express ammunition for your M1886 include: Jack Gilling, Box 430, Boissevain, Manitoba, and Philip J. Medicus, 35 E. Main Street, Elmsford, New York USA.

411 Isabella St. E.,
Saskatoon, Sask.

Editor,

I want to congratulate the staff on the latest quarterly Journal. I can appreciate the amount of effort that has gone into the production of this issue and hope in the future, we can do more from Saskatoon than just echo "keep up the good work."

Please renew my membership for 1962 and place my order for 100 sheets of the new research filing system. While in the ordering mood, would also like a SGCA crest.

While in Big River recently, I met a collector named Keith Gietz. He has a good collection started and one piece he showed me was a little special, an 1886 Win. with octagonal barrel in Cal. 38-56. He seemed interested in the Association and with a little encouragement, there could be a new member in a new corner of the province.

I HAVE A SERVICE AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION BUT IT IS A SHAME THAT THE DISTANCE MAKES IT SO AWKWARD. YOU CAN NOW TAKE YOUR WHOLE COLLECTION WITH YOU WHEREVER YOU GO, IN THE FORM OF A SMALL BOX OF COLOR SLIDES. AN INQUIRY WILL GIVE YOU FULL INFORMATION.

L. J. Smith.

R.C.M. Police,
Ponteix, Sask.

Editor,

Kindly find enclosed money order for Association membership and subscription to GUN TALK. The magazine is very helpful.

I have read the quarterly Journal and found it excellent. You members are doing a wonderful job, keep it up. Hope sometime I will in some small way be able contribute. As you will note from the attached sheet (see THE COLLECTOR'S PAGE) I've a small collection, acquired since coming to Ponteix in Sept., 1961. I am interested in Enfields and hope that through the Association, I will be able to contact others who are either interested in this type of firearm or who have Enfields I might obtain.

Ben Broderick (Cst.)

EDITOR'S NOTE: How about you Enfield buffs getting in touch with Ben.

Box 300, Climax, Sask.

Editor,

I enjoyed my first issue of GUN TALK very much. Of special interest to me was the article from Abe Reimer in ASK THE NEWSLETTER. I thought this interesting and informative. I have such a gun as he mentions and have been trying to obtain information about it. Judging from the article, there seems to be a dark spot in the identification of the first M1876 Winchester carbines issued to the N.W.M.P. in 1878, so I have decided to ask about the one I have and perhaps find some information. The carbine I have is identical to the one Mr. Reimer mentions except for the following: The sight shown on Page 10, (September GUN TALK) as the commercial sight is the one that is on my gun. Serial number is 5268. Calibre is unmarked or worn off but it chambers a 45-75 cartridge. There is a name stamped into the top of the barrel just in front of the rear sight. The name, I would say, is S. H. McFadden. Perhaps this will help in the research on these few rifles. I think ASK THE NEWSLETTER is a fine feature in GUN TALK. You never know but what some distant reader may have the answer you seek.

C. W. Bailey.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Ask the Newsletter has been incorporated into the present THE MEMBERS WRITE column. As in the case of Abe Reimer's M1876 carbine, your Winchester may well have been one of the 100 issued to the Force in 1878 and 1880. The name S. H. McFadden suggests an agent who may have handled an order from the N.W.M.P. Research is going on in this area of interest, but, as you say, this is still a "dark spot." Readers with information to add, please write.

Box 340, Rivers, Man.

Editor,

Enclosed please find money order for 1962 membership and a crest. GUN TALK has bloomed into a mighty fine magazine. Those responsible are to be congratulated.

I recently picked up a fine old English muzzle loading shotgun marked FENTON. I wonder if you could give me any information on this.

Fred J. Harvey.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Would anyone with information about English muzzle loading shotguns of the type mentioned by Fred, please write to him.

Ray's Auto Body & Paint Shop,
Ponteix, Saskatchewan.

Editor,

Please find my 1962 membership fee enclosed. I am proud to be a member although I have not been able to attend any of the meetings. Please advise me as to the name and address of a good gunsmith. I have a double barrelled muzzle loader that I would like more information on regarding make, value, etc. The name CANON A RUBEN is engraved on the top of the gun--the number 16.4 is stamped on the underside of the barrels. There is also a crest and a and a . The trigger guard and hammer parts are nicely engraved. Barrel is damascus. The fore-end part of the stock is missing. I also own a five-shot revolver known as a "Texas Bulldog". I believe it to be a .44 calibre. It also bears the same stamped on the cylinder. It was once chromed, or, silver plated.

R. A. Chibot.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The letters ELG over the five pointed star indicates a Belgian Leige proof mark. This mark is for blackpowder and has been in use since December, 1810. The other letters I cannot decypher but these may be the inspector's private mark. The last letter you show is probably a 'perron' or tower, which was used from 1672 to 1810 and from June 1853 to the present. This is an acceptance mark. The numerals 16.4 is the diameter which is usually found on choke bore barrels. The "Texas Bulldog" is one of many cheap revolvers made in Belgium. The ELG indicates Belgian proof and the R with the star (actually a crown?) has been used on all rifled firearms of greater than 8mm calibre since 1924. Before that, it was used on revolvers rifled before proof. There is in Saskatchewan, a man who specializes in gunsmithing antiques. He is Walter G. Colley, 533 Avenue I, North, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

Box 145, Vanguard, Sask.

Editor,

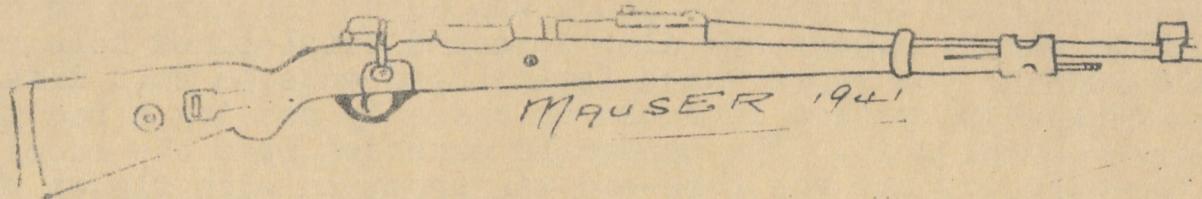
"... Would someone with detailed information on the Burnside Spencer please get in touch with me...."

Charles Hapke.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Can you Burnside Spencer buffs give Charles a hand.

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COME TO THE SHOW



"MAUSER '98"--how those words thrill me. There is nothing in the gun collector's field that so excites me as the sleek, efficient lines of the "Gewehr '98", official rifle of the German Imperial Army and the later "Karbiner '98" of Hitler's Wehrmacht.

The Mauser is king of the bolt action rifle world. Brought out in its final version in 1898, the basic design has not been improved upon since, although attempts towards this end have been made by various military and commercial organizations. No other rifle in the world is as well designed for safety, easy stripping, strength and reliability.

KING OF THE BOLT ACTIONS

BY NORMAN MILLER

I believe as many military Mauser rifles have been manufactured as all other hand-operated military type rifles combined. About eight million were manufactured for the Wehrmacht to May, 1945. These rifles, plus the millions made during the First World War and for export to other countries, along with those manufactured in Belgium, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Spain and other countries, amounts to an astronomical figure.

The 98 Mauser evolved from a succession of rifles invented and developed by the Mauser brothers and appeared in both military and sporting versions about the turn of the century. Adopted by the German Army, it was officially known as the "Infanterie Gewehr 98", marked GEW. 98 in German script on the left side of the receiver. These rifles were manufactured by the following firms and arsenals in Germany until the end of World War I; Amberg, Danzig, D.W.M., Erfurt, Haenel, Kornbusch, Mauser Werke, Oberspree, Sauer, Schilling, Simson and Spandau.

The Gewehr 98 had a 29.5 inch barrel, straight bolt handle and sling loops on the underside. The earlier ones had a disc inlaid into the butt like the S.M.L.E.'s. Later ones omitted this disc, having a hole through the butt instead. One feature, for which I have not discovered a purpose, is a small hook on the underside of the muzzle band. Rear sights on the earlier models were heavy and elaborate, with a high ramp. Around 1917, the rear sight was modified to a lower profile and simpler form, which was maintained throughout all the 98's made for the German Army until the end of World War II.

A carbine version, marked KAR .98 on the left receiver wall, was issued to cavalry troops prior to and during World War I. These carbines had an 18 inch barrel, turned down bolt handle and front sight guards. Sling loops were omitted.

A third model, also marked KAR .98, should be classed as a rifle, not a carbine. Issued to engineer and artillery personnel, it featured a 24 inch barrel and also had a turned down bolt handle.

An elongated hole through the stock was added for attaching one end of a side sling. There was also a second metal-lined hole added further back on the stock which facilitated ease in bolt disassembly, or, for locking rifles in racks or cases by passing a rod through the holes and locking it. The handguard extended from the receiver ring to the nose cap and the fore-end was provided with finger grooves. The latter feature was added to later long Mausers, as was the metal-lined hole in the butt stock. A long hook was provided in the nose cap for use in piling arms. The later Karbiner 98's are directly descended from this arm.

During the period before World War I, Germany exported thousands of Mauser rifles to Latin American countries and smaller nations throughout the world. These were among the finest military rifles made. Some on the market today, from Argentina and other countries, are truly beautiful specimens, fitted and finished better than many present day commercial sporters.

It appears that any nation could place an order in Germany for Mauser rifles built to its specifications. There are about 100 variations of 98 Mausers. While based on the 98 action, they could be had in any one of four calibres -- 6.5, 7, 7.65 and 7.92 MM's., while the furniture varied in the locations of sling swivels, length of handguards, shape of butt and type of wood. Sights varied as did the bayonet catches and cleaning rods. Most were inscribed with lettering in the nation's own script, while some bore a national crest on the receiver ring and butt. To state any hard and fast facts about Mausers is really sticking one's neck out. About any variation can and does turn up.

There was one particular model that departed slightly from the basic Model 98 design. Known as the Model 1910, this rifle was made by Mauser Werke for Costa Rica. There is a recess in the barrel face into which the extractor fits, enabling the bolt to seat more deeply, thus exposing less of the cartridge base lessening danger to the shooter in the event of a ruptured case or blown primer. The merits of this system were, however, offset by the increased difficulty in manufacture and headspace adjustment. The bolt body is slightly shorter than that of the standard Model 98.

For a few years after World War I, Germany was forbidden to manufacture Model 98 Mauser rifles. However, she secretly kept up developments and several other countries--Belgium, China, Czechoslovakia, Mexico, Portugal, Poland, Yugoslavia, Spain and a few others--adopted the 98 Mauser and set up plants to manufacture it, with Belgium and Czechoslovakia undertaking to supply Germany's former customers around the world. Except for minor differences in furniture, sights and hardware, these rifles were basically the 98 Mauser, with most being manufactured to German specifications. Parts were, for the most part, interchangeable. The Mexican model had a shorter bolt and a small diameter receiver ring. In outward appearance, it was very much like the Model 95 Mauser. The Portuguese Model had a split receiver bridge like a Mannlicher. The Yugoslavian model had a longer receiver ring. But having never closely examined one, I cannot say if the bolt was also longer.

The Polish Mauser, as originally manufactured, looked like the early K.R.98 short rifle, but had underside sling loops. Later models were similar in appearance to the German Model 98K. They had a double eagle crest on the receiver ring, with the name of the manufacturing arsenal--Radom or Warsaw. Polish Mausers were made of good materials, but were roughly finished. They were on a par with the German wartime rifles.

Czechoslovakian Mausers were made to German specifications, but had a straight bolt handle and the handguard extended from the receiver ring to the muzzle band. One unusual feature was that these rifles were equipped with both side and bottom sling loops. The stocks were of solid walnut and did not have holes or sling cuts as did the later German models. Some had a lion crest on the receiver ring and all were marked with the name of the manufacturing arsenal--Brno or Praha--on the left wall of the receiver, or, on the receiving ring. Some were dated and all bore the model number VZ 24. A carbine version, known as the VZ 33, was issued to special troops. It featured a 17.5-inch barrel and small diameter receiver ring, with a few lightening cuts on the bolt and receiver. Czechoslovakian Mausers were probably the finest of all as far as materials and workmanship were concerned, being made of high grade nickel steel, in place of the case hardened carbon steel of the German Mausers.

Belgium Mausers also followed German specifications and were made by Fabrique Nationale. The bolt handle was turned down and the handguard resembled the Czechoslovakian model, as did the stock, except that the side sling loops were omitted. These rifles were well made and finished, comparable to pre-war Mauser-made arms. While all Czechoslovakian military Mausers I have seen were in the original German 7.92 MM calibre, Belgium did a big export business and supplied arms in 7, 7.65 and 7.92 MM.

The final version of the 98 Mauser, as manufactured in Germany for the German Army, was officially known as the Model 98 Karbiner and was so marked Mod. 98 on the left receiver wall. When the Nazis came into power, they began the manufacture of Mauser rifles and other arms in earnest. To keep inquisitive nations from finding out the names of the plants and the quantity of arms manufactured, they devised a system of codes, allotting them to the manufacturers. First, a number system was used. Numbers, or a combination of numbers and a letter, such as "42", "S/42", "S/27", "660" and so on appeared on the receiver ring of each rifle. The code was changed in 1940 or 1941 and letters were used instead. Initials such as "e r, b c d, b n z, b y f and d o t identified the maker. All Mauser rifles made for the German Army had the date of manufacture stamped on the receiver ring under the maker's name or code, such as 1908, 1916 and 1939. Later ones showed the last two digits of the date-- 41, 42, 43 and so on. I have one of b c d manufacture that shows only one number --4-- which I assume means 1944, as this date is stamped on the barrel.



A carbine version, adopted from the Czechoslovakian VZ 33 and known as the MOD. 33/40, was manufactured and issued to German mountain troops and other special units. Except for the German type stocks, it was identical to the VZ 33.

Early German Mausers had solid stocks of various woods, with walnut, birch and beech being most common. Due to a shortage of good wood, Germany experimented with various substitutes and some rifles were made with light metal and plastic stocks. Finally, a laminated wood stock was developed, made of thin layers of beech wood glued and pressed together. While lacking beauty, these stocks proved entirely satisfactory for military purposes. The majority of 98K's made during World War II, were equipped with them. They were probably the most stable of any wooden stocks made, resisting warpage due to dampness and temperature changes almost 100 per cent and were very strong. Inletting was excellent, with as good wood-to-metal contact as most standard factory made sporting rifles, something which cannot be said for the average British or American-made military rifle. Two types of butt plates were in common use. The earlier rifles had conventional flat butt plates, while the later ones had a pressed-steel cupped butt plate that fitted over the end of the butt giving protection against splitting.

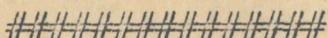
During the last two years of World War II, the 98 Mauser was modified for easier and cheaper manufacture. Several parts were fabricated from stampings. These included barrel bands, nose caps, trigger guards, magazines, floor plates and followers. These stampings were very good, quite superior to similar stampings on the U.S. Springfield and other rifles. The trigger guard and floor plate were each made of two separate stampings folded together to give the appearance of a milled part. The floor plate remained detachable, unlike the trigger guard assembly of the Springfield 1903-43.

The finish of the wartime 98's deteriorated as the war progressed, with the later ones being left quite rough on the outside surfaces. No attempt was made to polish out the tool marks, except on the receiver. Some of the later bolts were made without guide ribs. I have heard of some with a welded-on bolt handle, but not having seen one, I cannot confirm this. Contrary to stories circulated after the war, the 98 Mausers remained quite strong, entirely adequate for the intended cartridge, providing headspace was alright.

The Germans were adept at suiting their rifles to geographical and climatic conditions. I have seen two 98 Mausers painted white, for use in snow. Another, captured in North Africa, was painted a dull sand color. They also issued rifles fitted with enlarged trigger guards for use with gloved hands and some were equipped with novel side triggers which could be fired by heavily mittened shooters. The Karbine 33/40 was fitted with a special plate on the side of the butt, which could be used as an aid in mountain climbing.

As far as I know, no military Mausers are being made today. Czechoslovakia made quite a few since World War II, for export to nations like Egypt, but most Mausers have now been placed in reserve stores or sold as surplus arms. Many smaller nations are still armed with Mausers and more are issued to second-line troops and reserves in other countries.

The Mauser played a major role in two world conflicts, many local actions and several revolutions. It has stood the test of time and rigorous military service with distinction. Significantly, Mausers continue to be the standard by which all other bolt action rifles are compared.



BOOK REVIEWS by S.J.K.

THE AMERICAN CARTRIDGE

by Charles R. Suydam

Published by G. Robert Lawrence, Santa Ana Gunroom, Santa Ana, Calif., \$8.00 (Approx)

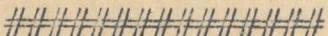
A first class reference book for cartridge and gun collectors too. This book contains more than 425 photographs, in full size, of many cartridges and over six dozen different types of rim-fires are identified, along with numerous head stamps. Every American rim-fire, from the No. 1 S & W pistol cartridge to the .22 Winchester Magnum, is mentioned. A worthwhile buy for those who wish to know what type of rimfire they have.

CARTRIDGE CONVERSIONS

by George C. Nonte

Published by the Stackpole Co., Harrisburg, Penn.

There are many collectors who wish they had ammo for that old "thunderer" now at rest on the wall. Many cannot afford obsolete ammunition for shooting. But now their worries are over. In this book by Nonte are three sections, American, British and Metric, telling how to make rounds you want from existing brass. You don't have to know much about handloading for in the beginning of this book, the how's, why's and wherefor's are covered. For those who have to shoot that "olde" one, and even for the modern handloader, this book is recommended.

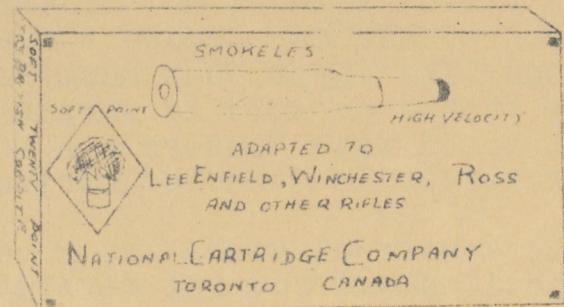


REMEMBER SASKATOON

MARCH 25th

THE NATIONAL CARTRIDGE CO.

BY A.M. PROVICK



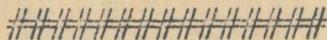
Most Canadian concerns in the ammunition field, it seems safe to say, were not noted for longevity, many being dogged by bad luck of one sort or another. This is particularly true of the ill-fated National Cartridge Company, of Toronto, although not much information has come to hand so far.

Briefly, the firm was formed some time after World War I, to convert surplus Mark VI service ammunition to saleable "soft point". Now the Mark VI was a round nosed bullet, introduced in 1904 and it began to be replaced by the pointed Mark VII about 1910. The earliest dated specimens of Dominion Arsenals manufactured I have seen are dated 1905 and were made continuously until 1912, at least. The first ones were made without date, and it is these that National undertook to convert. Perhaps dated rounds were used as well, but I have not seen any. The bullet weighs about 215 grains, has a jacket of 80 percent copper and 20 percent nickel, a core of 98 percent lead and 2 percent antimony, is propelled by 30 to $32\frac{1}{2}$ grains of cordite and starts lumbering off at about 1970 feet per second.

All National did was lathe-turn off the tip portion of each bullet jacket, seemingly without having to remove them from the cases. The specimens I have were cut off 17 mm. from the case mouth. Now the jacket at the tip is thinner than on the older Mark II, but still pretty thick at the tip section and naturally the exposed core looked sort of spindly, so it was swaged or blunted down to flow out level with the edge of the jacket and nicely rounded off to look very much like a modern soft point bullet. The finished rounds were packed in attractive red and ivory labelled boxes of 20. They were flat, like the military packages of the day.

Any optimism the company might have felt at this time was soon dashed, when the government stepped in and halted operations. All sales of converted rounds was stopped and almost all of the some two million rounds completed were seized and dumped into Lake Ontario. The reason for this action was the fact that this ammunition could not be considered exactly safe. When the jacket-tip was removed, you had a cylinder of cupro-nickel, with a lead core. The cannelure was far too shallow to anchor the core and the base of the jacket being unchanged from military, was practically open, the jacket base being turned in only about 1 mm all around. Therefore, the possibility existed that a bullet jacket would stick in the barrel while the core sailed right on out. The next shot would try to iron out this cylinder into the rifling, doing the gun severe injury, if not the shooter as well.

So ended the National Cartridge Company, another defunct Canadian concern whose products we cartridge fanatics can now drool over should we be fortunate enough to "locate" any. Mark VI rounds by Kynoch can occasionally be found converted to soft point, although less of the jacket was cut off and they look different than the National product. I do not know how they got into circulation as soft points, but they did.



ON RESTORING GUNS

BY
W.G. COLLITY

Some say: "leave it as is, or you'll spoil it".

There have been countless articles published on this theme, expressing views pro and con. To me, a rifle, pistol, small motor, anything old--even a watch dating back a couple of hundred years--still working today only does so for a special reason.

Someone acquiring an old and treasured, but at the time non-functioning item, was fascinated by the thought that having worked once, it could work again. Our forefathers who came to this country, like their counterparts to the south, did not have "experts" available to repair or fix such items. They had to rely on themselves. Ever since the dawn of history, man has had to improvise, or starve and fall prey to the elements. Oftentimes, necessity was the mother of invention.

If you have a weapon that appears, on the face of it, to have "gone west," I say: **MAKE IT WORK!** At least, do your best to try and make it work. Otherwise, all you will really have is a piece of metal and some scarred wood, in other words, nothing!

Before tackling a job, I literally study it from every angle. This you should do before beginning any work on a piece. Prior to disassembling, clean all screw slots, using a small needle fixed into some form of handle. The handle makes it much easier to manoeuvre the needle at different angles as you clean slots, letters, numbers and so on. A small magnifying glass is very helpful. A word of wisdom--take plenty of time. Undue haste generally results in a sloppy job. You will need penetrating oil and steel wool--fine steel wool. This can be purchased at most local stores. Put a few drops of oil on all screws. Let this work in overnight and then repeat the process. Important tools in gunsmithing are screwdrivers. You will need two or three sizes, with clean, sharp blades. Sandpaper, or emery cloth have no place in cleaning metal parts. They will scratch the metal. Steel wool and lots of oil will remove most rust deposits without scratching or damaging any of the remaining finish. I will not go into wood refinishing as this is a full-blown subject in itself and will be covered in GUN TALK at a later time.

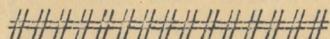
Kerosene can be used for cleaning parts. It's quite good for removing rust, dirt and grease, but the parts to be cleaned must be soaked overnight, or, preferably longer. Piping hot water and a detergent (Not soap) works fairly well. Parts should be immersed and allowed to absorb the heat, then shaken and wiped off.

A good pair of pointed pliers can be used to remove most springs, these will be chiefly main and sear springs, and reinstall them. There are special tools for this job, but pliers will answer the purpose quite well.

Nipples on muzzle loading guns sometimes pose a problem. If not damaged, however, they can be cleaned without being removed, which is all that is necessary. A word of caution--MAKE SURE THE WEAPON IS NOT LOADED. Having assured yourself that it is NOT, poke a fine, steel-spring wire, straightened out well, through the nipple hole. I repeat, make sure the weapon is free of any charge, as steel working against steel will often create sparks. It should be noted that a black powder charge (assuming the weapon has been stored in a dry place, even for 100 years or more) will "cake", making it much more volatile.

The inside of barrels can be cleaned with a rod wrapped with steel wool and the application of great amounts of elbow grease. Muzzle loading gun barrels can be filled with coal oil (nipples should be plugged) and left to soak for further cleansing.

By properly cleaning out all old lettering, numbers and other markings, you will be able to determine information concerning the weapon's maker, patent dates, proof marks and so on. And after all, research is the most interesting part of gun collecting and is basic to any restoration work.



FEATURING THE JACK ROWAN COLLECTION

Jack Rowan, of Plenty, Saskatchewan, is what you might term a general collector. He has a little of everything--Winchesters, Colts, flintlocks, Mausers, Lugers, American Civil War carbines, English shotguns, European pin-fire revolvers, swords of various origin, sundry bayonets, powder horns, bullet moulds and a miscellaneous collection of about 140 different cartridges.

One of the first pieces to catch your eye in Jack's basement gun room is an unusually fine English percussion fowling piece. This 16 gauge, single shot weapon has been converted from a flintlock and is silver mounted, with gold stripes at the breech. The lock is beautifully engraved. The word "YORK" is engraved, in old English, on the barrel, attesting to the fact that the history of this fine piece goes back to the Duke of York, who was--you will remember--Wellington's Commander-in-Chief.

Winchesters are a popular item in any collection. Jack has one M1876 in .40-60 calibre and another in .45-75 calibre. The latter has a round barrel, short magazine and shotgun butt. An M1886 in .40-82 calibre and an M1895 in .40-72 calibre round out the Winchesters.

Two fine pieces of which Jack is justly proud are Frank Wesson Civil War carbines, both in .44 calibre. Another prized piece of this approximate period, though used in a different country, is a Danish Remington rolling block rifle, in 11.7 mm, with bayonet. This M1867 Remington was shipped to Denmark and issued from the Copenhagen Ordnance Depot in 1878.

The lone Colt in Jack's collection is the percussion 1849 Pocket Model--a real beauty. A later revolver of another famous line is a .38 Smith & Wesson. It is an early top-break model, with a five-inch barrel. Patent dates run from Jan. 24, 1865, through July 11, 1865 and Aug. 24, 1869; Reissue July 25, 1871, May 11, 1880 and Jan. 3, 1882. The piece has a "square back" trigger guard and we would tentatively identify it as the Model .38 Double-Action, Second Issue Smith & Wesson Revolver.

Jack states that his special interests in collecting are Lugers, flintlocks and swords. He has fine representative pieces in each category. His Lugers include the Artillery model, with eight-inch barrel, in 9 mm, (D.W.M. 1917); the Commercial model (1920), with four-inch barrel, in 9 mm; and the Military model (D.W.M. 1915). This has the four-inch barrel and is complete with original holster, matching extra clip and takedown tool.

One of Jack's most unusual and desireable pieces is a double-barrel over-and-under flintlock pistol. This beautiful piece was made by Twigg of London. It has three-inch barrels, of approximately .45 calibre. The barrels unscrew for loading.

Highly prized by Jack are a matching pair of Victorian officer's swords--field and dress. Complete with scabbards, these were made by Wilkinson of London. Other bladed weapons include Persian and Japanese swords.

When asked to list weapons he would most like to acquire, Jack replied: Lugers, pepperboxes, swords, a flintlock blunderbuss and a flintlock Brown Bess.

Jack's parts requirements include a buttplate, or complete stock, for a .44 single shot Ballard rifle; and a cylinder for a single action, tip-up revolver, made by the American Standard Tool Company, Newark, New Jersey. Jack's traders include a Model 71/84 Mauser rifle, calibre .43, and any new Browning guns currently available. He is a franchised dealer for Browning.

Jack has many, many more guns we would like to discuss if space only permitted. One we will mention, though, is a Springfield trap-door rifle, .45-70 calibre, that is kind of special because it saw action in the Riel Rebellion. But then, as Jack sees it, each and every gun in his collection is "kind of special".

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75 TODAY

BY RALPH MARVEN

C-I-L's Brownsburg Works produced its first cartridge for a sporting rifle on October 10 1886. We are pleased to present this 75th Anniversary feature, reprinted from the October, 1961 C-I-L OVAL

Today the hills, the elms, the upland farms of the Ottawa Valley beckon the tourist as they once did the pioneer. So captivating is their pastoral beauty that when the motorist, with the metropolis of Montreal 50 miles behind him, comes to Brownsburg, he hardly expects to find industry thriving in this rural setting. Yet one business has flourished here and sustained the pleasant village for three-quarters of a century.

On October 10, 1886, Brownsburg produced its first cartridge for a sporting rifle. Since then, by providing ammunition, what is now C-I-L's Brownsburg Works has helped bring game to sportsmen in all parts of the world, and is still Canada's only sporting ammunition factory. That it has flourished is due to the energy of its citizens, first of whom was that enterprising miller, George Brown, after whom the community is named.

Among those who keep Brownsburg prosperous today are his descendants, and many other Brownsburg families have also handed down their skills at ammunition-making from father to son. On the site where their forebears once mixed powder by the light of oil lamps, and charged primers with fulminate of mercury from a preserving kettle above their heads, employees now wear gold watches awarded for long service, and collectively claim a remarkable stack of safety awards for their plant.

Unconsciously, for their progressive and responsible attitude, they take George Brown as their model. By ship from England and by boat up the Ottawa, this settler and his family came destitute to the district, disembarking in 1818 with only enough money to buy a single loaf of bread. Before he died, in affluence, he had made it possible for himself and other pioneers to enjoy bread in abundance: he built a grist mill. From as far as 25 miles around, farmers brought their oats to be ground into meal, and other grains to make flour and feed. This they did for 120 years after George Brown had won his 100 acre government grant in 1818.

Other settlers with military connections were also to play their part in building Brownsburg, including the United Empire Loyalist, Captain Johnson Smith, who had settled nearby. One of his twelve sons, Daniel, went back to the land whence the family had come in voluntary exile. In the United States, young Daniel mastered the art of making black powder, and when he returned to Canada, bought land along the West River on which he built a powder plant. He bought it in 1875 from Alexander MacGibbon, a son-in-law of George Brown and great-grandfather of the present works manager, K. W. MacGibbon.

Powered by a water wheel and operated on the principle of "no water--no work", the powder plant produced the explosives which took the drudgery out of land clearing. It also provided the propellant for the hand-cast leaden bullets so necessary to the pioneers. For them, game shooting often determined whether the family would eat meat or struggle through the winter on dried corn.

By the 1880's, new munitions interests were attracted to Brownsburg. One of them was drawn there by a chain of circumstances. The Acadia Powder Company, controlled by Nobel's Explosives Company of Glasgow, Scotland, had imported explosives to Montreal and stored them there. In 1874, Montreal's authorities passed a by-law (since rescinded) ordaining that no explosives be stored within 50 miles of the city. With no railroads then north of the Ottawa, and water the cheapest form of transportation, Acadian Powder chose a new site on the river bank at Carillon.

There too, the inhabitants did not fancy the presence of a powder-magazine in their midst. To ward it off, the Carillonneurs displayed an acumen that might be emulated by all those who have dealings with authority. Instead of selfishly pleading risk to themselves, the citizens of Carillon hit on the telling argument that an explosion would damage the nearby government locks.

Their case carried, and it was decreed that no explosives could be stored within 10 miles of this government property. Now some 10 miles away lay Brownsburg, whose citizens were already familiar with explosives, thanks to the powder-making activities of Daniel Smith. They welcomed the Nobel interests which put up a stone magazine nearby, employed Smith, and closed his primitive plant.

In 1886 Acadia Powder Company was, in turn, taken over by the Hamilton Powder Company, which was destined to become one of the elements forming Canadian Explosives Limited (later C-I-L), in 1910. Among the other elements was to be the Dominion Cartridge Company, whose founding in 1886 is the cause of this month's 75-year celebrations.

The colorful founder of Dominion Cartridge had come to Canada almost as a "hired gun" for the Riel Rebellion. He was Captain A. L. Howard, soon to be known as "Gat" Howard for his use of the new Gatling machine-gun.

In the early 1880's, the Canadian government had acquired a couple of Gatlings, the efficient operation of which seemed beyond the power of the natives. Captain Howard--an officer in the state National Guard of Connecticut besides being agent for Gardner and Gatling, machine-gun manufacturers--was engaged by Canada, and just in time. The Riel Rebellion had broken out.

At Batoche Ferry the rebels pressed so hard that the artillery was ordered to the rear. It might have been lost, and many soldiers with it, had it not been for Howard and his handling of the novel armament:

"Whatever happens, we have got
The Gatling Gun, and they have not".

By 1886, like many another demobilized hero, Howard was job-hunting. Turning to the field he knew best, he discovered that Canada lacked a cartridge factory. He not only knew how to handle a Gatling, he had worked in an ammunition plant in the United States. Now he decided to build one in Canada. A suitable location seemed to be Brownsburg, where Daniel Smith's powder plant stood idle, but ready to start up again and provide the propellant charges for ammunition.

In forming the Dominion Cartridge Company in 1886, "Gat" Howard had the backing of a grateful government which not only gave him tax concessions on machinery, but even provided him with a president for his company in the person of The Honorable J. J. C. Abbott, at this time government leader in the Senate, and later to become Prime Minister.

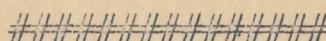
Within six months after being incorporated, the company produced its first ammunition, just 75 years ago. The employees then numbered 15. Today, C-I-L employs some 900 at Brownsburg most of them natives of the town and surrounding countryside.

As the demand for dependable ammunition grew, so did Brownsburg. Electricity brought in to serve the plant was shared with the householders. Wages rose (they could do little else: girls hired when the plant opened got $3\frac{1}{2}$ cents an hour).

During World War I, most of Brownsburg's production (under Canadian Explosives Limited) was destined for the military. With the even more urgent demands of World War II, facilities were devoted to training personnel, and setting up pilot lines, for Defense Industries Limited, a crown corporation which supplied all wartime ammunition. And with peace came increased demand for sporting ammunition, now produced in an immense range of sizes and loads for rifles, pistols and shotguns. Canada's top trap and skeet enthusiasts, hunters and international rifle and pistol teams all rely on "Brownsburg loads."

One of the first places the ammunition is put to use is around Brownsburg, for the bush has not receded too far for deer to be shot within 10 miles. In bringing their children up to a lively appreciation of nature, Brownsburg parents are only following the natural course of people bred close to the land and its resources.

Their great-grandparents, the same who broke fresh ground and brought their grain to George Brown's mill, often relied on their hunting ability to provide meat for the family. The continuing development of the industry that has occupied Brown's land for 75 years has meant for the pleasant little town a steady prosperity unknown to the early settlers.



THE RIFLE THAT CANADA BUILT

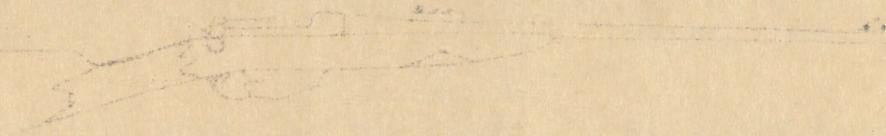
BY
ROGER PHILLIPS

SIR CHARLES ROSS had his first rifles built in London, England and Hartford, Connecticut. London-made Ross rifles were produced by the renowned British gun-making firm of Charles Lancaster and Company. The Hartford, Connecticut firm (or firms) involved is not known to this writer.

Before proceeding with our Ross story, it might be useful at this point to pause and describe the Ross rifles we will be discussing. The following line drawings and descriptions will provide some idea of the scope and variety of Ross production. In this issue of GUN TALK, we will deal with the sporting rifles made by Ross.

MODEL 1897

This "hammer" model was the first of a long line of straight-pull Ross rifles. It was manufactured for Ross by Charles Lancaster, of London and in Hartford, Connecticut. The bolt slides back over the hammer cocking it much like a Winchester rifle.

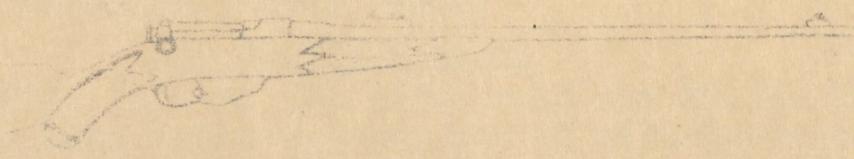


Specifications

Calibre, .303 British	Length of barrel, 26 ins.
Stock, walnut (checkered).	Magazine capacity, 5 cartgs.
Rear sight, English two-leaf.	

MODEL 1900

Ross departed from the hammer version and in this model, made the striker part of the bolt assembly. The thumb piece of the bolt is knurled. This model was also manufactured in London and Hartford. It is believed a similar model was patented and produced in 1901.

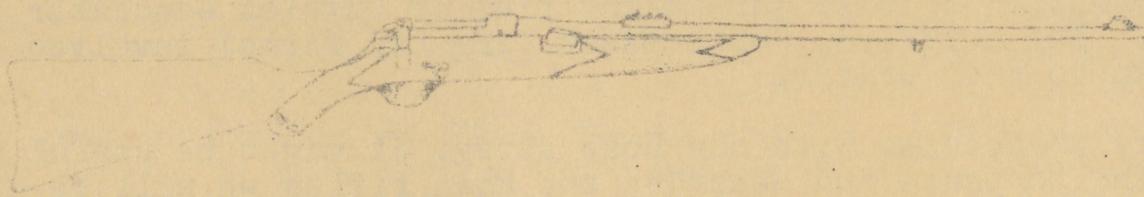


Specifications

Calibre, .303 Br.	Length of barrel, 26 ins.
Stock, walnut (checkered).	Magazine capacity, 5 cartgs.
Rear sight, English two-leaf.	

MODEL 1903

This weapon was made primarily for hunting in Africa and India. The first of these rifles were made in London and Hartford and subsequently in the new Ross Rifle Company plant, at Quebec City, which was in operation by 1904. Rifles in this model made by Lancaster had oval-bore rifling.

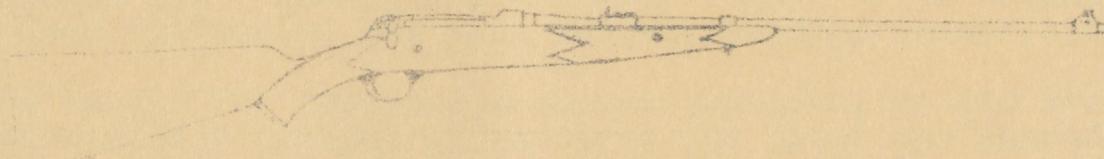


Specifications

Cal. .370-375 (.370 Express). Bbl. length, 26 ins.
Stock, walnut (checkered). Magazine capacity, 5 cartgs.
Rear sight, English two-leaf.

MODEL "E" 1905

This beautifully finished, top grade rifle was the first Ross sporter to be manufactured exclusively at the Quebec plant.



Specifications

Cals. .303 Br. & .35 Winchester. Bbl. length, 22, 26, 28 ins.
Stock, selected Italian walnut. Magazine capacity, 5 cartgs.

MODEL "R" 1905

This plain sporter suggests a factory conversion of the Model 1905 military rifle. It was Ross' lowest priced big game rifle, selling for \$25.00 in 1911. The forward thumb piece depresses the cartridge lifter for loading.



Specifications

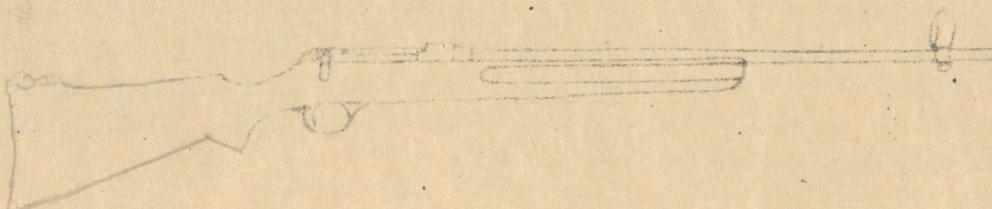
Cal. .303 Br. Bbl. length, 22, 24, 26 ins.
Stock, walnut. Magazine capacity, 5 cartgs.
Weight, 6 lbs., 12 oz. Rear sight, sporting "U" shaped
adjustable.

SCOTCH DEER STALKING PATTERN

This model was developed in 1907 to take the high velocity .280 Ross cartridge and was the first to use serrated (interrupted, screw-type) locking lugs. It is identical in outward appearance to the Model "E", except that the rearsight is of the single fixed type. Ross optical sights could be fitted if desired. Barrel length was 26 or 28 inches and the weight was 7 lbs., 8 oz.

.280 MATCH RIFLE

This superbly accurate single shot rifle was built for use under British N.R.A. regulations in match competitions (the calibre .280 was banned from 1912 on). The barrel of this rifle was completely "free-floating". Ross developed a vernier peep sight, which was mounted on the heel of the stock, and a large, shaded optical front sight for this weapon. This combination was designed for long-range prone shooting, with the shooter lying flat on his back, feet toward the target.

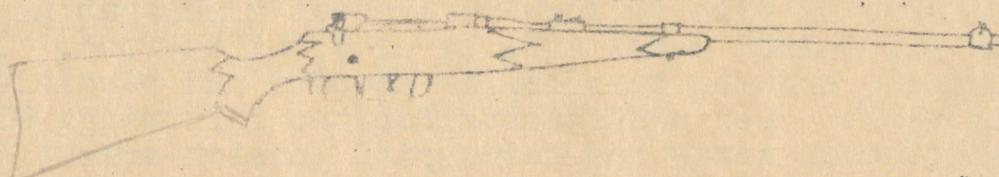


Specifications

Cal. .280 Ross (later .303 Magnum). Weight about 9 lbs., 4 oz.
Stock, Italian walnut. Bbl. length, 30½ ins.

MODEL "E - 10"

Similar, except for wood, to the MARK III military Ross, this sporter had a flag-type safety, as did all sporters from the Model 1903 on, excepting the Model "R", which used a slide button safety.

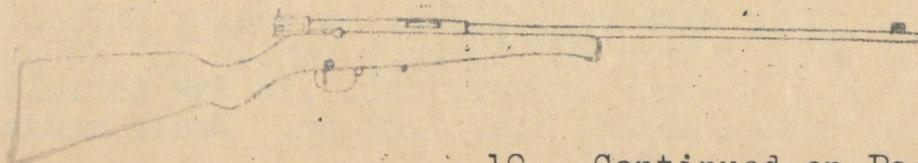


Specifications

Cals. .303 Br. & .35 Winchester. Bbl. length, 22, 24, 26 ins.
Stock, walnut. Weight, 7 lbs., 4 oz.
Magazine capacity, 5 cartgs. Rearsight, English standard &
Foresight, Ross bead. two-leaf.

.22 SPORTING MODEL

Brought out in 1911, this SS .22 rifle sold for \$7.50. It handled .22 Short, Long and Long Rifle cartgs, had an adjustable peep sight, walnut stock and weighed 4 lbs., 8 oz. Bbl. length, 18, 20, 22 ins.



THE COLLECTOR'S PAGE

We are off to a good start on the "Member Information Sheet" idea. Initial response has been encouraging and we hope all members will soon have these forms (which were on Page 25, of the December GUN TALK) in to us. From now on, they will form the content of this, THE COLLECTOR'S PAGE. Since we have a goodly number of new members, we will again publish the "Member Information sheet" in the forthcoming issue of GUN TALK.

ENFIELDS, REMINGTONS MAIN INTEREST

CST. BEN BRODERICK, of the R.C.M. Police, stationed in Pon- teix, states that Enfields, on the Snider and Martini-Henry actions, and Remington rolling block rifles are his main collecting interest. Ben is just getting nicely started in the collecting game and has thus far acquired the following: 1861 Enfield; 1863 Enfield; 1871 Enfield; 1879 Enfield; 1883 Enfield and two Remington rolling blocks. His traders are mostly Win- chesters acquired when there is an opportunity to trade same for Enfields. Ben would like to acquire any Enfield on the Snider and Martini-Henry actions and Remington rolling blocks. He has information available on English firearms, including En- fields on the above-mentioned actions.

LIKES CIVIL WAR CARBINES

LES SMITH, of 411 Isabella Street East, Saskatoon, has a pen- chant for American Civil War arms finding their way into Canada and wonders why these were principally carbines. Les tells us he has some Civil War arms, a few Winchesters and a regular "pot- pouri" of others. He is interested in finding and acquiring any- thing in the line of Civil War carbines. He would like infor- mation leading to more definite identification of a .22 Reming- auto made by Union Metallic Cartridge Company, Remington Arms, Ilion, N.Y., U.S.A. Serial number is R. B. 1011. The piece is not dated. Les would like to know more about a shotgun he has-- an English 12 ga. hammer model made by L. J. Littleford. It has damascus-designed, browned barrels, is proofed and possible ser- ial number is 43824. Les needs parts for the following: M1892 Win. 44-40--buttstock screw and mainspring tension screw; M1886 Win. .40-70--two retaining screws for forestock cap and magazine cap screw; '65 Spencer by Burnside--lower swivel (and some dog sawed off the saddle ring and bar).

PREFERS MODERN ARMS

ERNIE ZANDER, of 446-5th St. S. W., Medicine Hat, says he is mainly interested in collecting modern arms for hunting and shooting. Ernie's roster of guns includes the following: in Win- chesters--M1894 cal. .32Sp, M1894 cal. .30-30, M1894 cal. .25-35, M1892 cal. .44-40, M1890 cal. .22WRF; Marlin M1893 cal. .38-55; Savage M99 cal. .303; Enfield No. 1, MKIII, .303 Br. custom built, barrel 21 ins., 5-shot clip, 6x scope; Mauser M98 cal. .8x57 mm, custom, bolt altered, new stock, 3x-7x scope; Cooey M75 cal. 22 RF, 4x scope; Mossberg M42C cal. .22RF, 4x scope; Enfield M1862 cal. .577 serial #11; Ithica M37 12 ga.; Ithica M37 20 ga.; Excel single shot, 12 ga., 36-inch barrel; cal. .38 S&W Enfield revolver; and Mauser broom handle pistol cal. 7.63 mm. Ernie needs a stock for a M1893 Marlin cal. .38-55.

SAVAGE ARMS FAN

I. J. GERBLAND, of Shaunavon, Sask., states that his special interest is Savage arms and information about the company. His collection is made up of the following: M1892 Win. cal. .44-40; M1892 Win. cal. .25-20; Marlin cal. .38 Long; cal. .75 Muzzle loading Belgium shotgun; two Belgian double barrelled shotguns; J. C. Hamilton .22 pump; '06 Savage .22 pump; '06 Win. .22 pump; Browning .22 pump; along with an accumulation of miscellaneous rifles, shotguns and revolvers too numerous to describe. Traders include a .38 Long Marlin, Ballard's pat. 1861; M1892 Win. cal. 44-40 carbine; M1892 Win. cal. .25-20 carbine; Belgian muzzle loading shotgun; J. C. Hamilton .22 pump, brass-lined barrel. He would like to acquire an early Savage revolver, any calibre. A weapon that has thus far eluded definite identification is a cal. .750 muzzle loader, rifled barrel, full stock, likely a rampart or wall gun. Parts needed include a loading gate for a M1892 Win. cal. .25-20; main hammer spring for a M1906 Win. cal. .22 pump; and clip magazines for a M1906 Savage cal. .22 pump.

MILITARY COLLECTOR

NORMAN MILLER of Neudorf, Sask., has long specialized in a particular field of antiques--military rifles, pistols and bayonets. By way of summary, Norman has 83 rifles, 14 pistols, 40 bayonets, three machine guns, two swords, five helmets, and various belts, scabbards, uniforms, badges, medals, documents, cartridges, books, grenades, shells, flags and, yes, even Indian relics. We hope to deal more fully with Norman's fine and extensive collection in a near-future issue of GUN TALK. Norman lists as traders a M1873 Win. rifle Cal. .44-40; a .577 cal. Snider (cut down); a M97 Winchester shotgun, a M71/84 Mauser rifle (cut down) and cartridges. He would like to acquire the following--Belgium Mauser M1889; German M98/40; British Martini .450; Polish Mauser; French MAS rifle; and Artillery Model Luger. In parts, Norman needs a feed block, bipod and pistol grip for a German Maxim Machine gun 08/15; and an ejector and firing pin for a German Gewehr 88. As for GUN TALK, Norman says he would like to see more stories on Canadian Military small arms (pre-World War I). He has an extensive library and can be depended upon to provide helpful information on most military small arms after 1885 and most U.S.-made breech-loading rifled arms. He also has a fund of information on German bayonets, daggers and ammunition.

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ROSS RIFLES, ACCESSORIES, LITERATURE, INFORMATION, PARTS, ETC.
OTHER ROSS ENTHUSIASTS PLEASE WRITE.

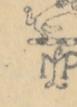
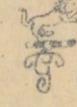
NEED INFORMATION ON HISTORY AND OPERATION OF THE CANADIAN
"NORTH AMERICAN ARMS COMPANY"

PURCHASES BY CASH, OR WILL TRADE COLTS, ETC.

ROGER PHILLIPS
64 Bobolink Bay,
Regina, Sask.

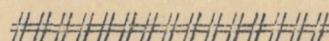
ARMOURER'S MARKS

BY * S.J. KIRDY



Shown above are some of the proof marks found on handguns and shoulder arms made in Great Britain since the beginning of the 17th century. In very early arms these marks will be found on the barrel, in later and breech loading guns the marks will also be found on the breech-block or on the receiver and bolt.

- 1 & 2. London proof marks circa 1637.
- 3 & 4. London proof marks circa 1672, these are the same as 1 & 2 but in an oval recess.
- 5 & 6. London proof marks circa 1702, these are similar to 3 & 4 but for the crown which has only two loops.
- 6 & 7. Birmingham proof marks previous to 1813. It will be noticed that mark #6 is common to both London and Birmingham.
8. The British Government Broad Arrow, in various forms, indicates Crown property.
- 9 & 10. Proof marks from Dublin circa 1750.
11. London provisional proof marks used from 1856.
12. Birmingham provisional proof marks used from 1856.
13. London special definite proof mark found on rifled barrels.
14. Birmingham special definite proof mark found on rifled barrels.
15. This mark is found on shotgun barrels indicating that the chamber length is less than 3 inches.
16. This mark is similar to #15 but indicates that the chamber length is over 3 inches.



THE BEGINNING OF GUNPOWDER AND GUNS

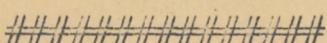
BY

S.J. KIRBY

Historical research into the origins of gunpowder and guns suffers not only from a lack of records but also from the ambiguity of the terms then used and the want of their true definitions. Words not only keep changing their meaning but in describing something new man will frequently use a contemporary term rather than invent a new one and consequently confuse the researchers of a later date. For example the word 'gun' is derived from the old English 'gonne', which comes from 'Mangonel' which was a seige engine not unlike an old Roman ballista, also the word 'artillery' is used by Chaucer to describe three different things, namely, archers, arrows and cannon. Later still we find the words 'detonizing bolt' and 'breech pin', meaning firing-pin and breech-block respectively, in advertisements for the Sharps rifle. So it is easily seen how the absence of the correct definition of a term, at a particular time, can create confusion for the translator and research-man.

There are many who claim the honour for the discovery of gunpowder, among them - the Hindus, the Chinese, the Greeks, the Arabs, the English and the Germans. However, it is extremely doubtful that any of the early claims (those prior to the 13th century) can be substantiated or credited. In making these claims many writers have been influenced by poor or too free translations of old documents and by the exaggerated statements of the ancients. The original gunpowder, which was blackpowder, was made up of three ingredients, nitre (more commonly known as saltpeter) sulphur and charcoal. The latter two materials have been known to many races well before the birth of Christ but saltpeter is a comparative newcomer and as blackpowder could not be made without it, gunpowder would have to await its discovery. What has confused many and led them to think gunpowder was invented long before it came into existence were the various incendiary mixtures used in battles and sieges since the beginning of the present millennium. These can be classified as 'wild-fire' of which the most famous was 'Greek-fire', sometimes called 'sea-fire'.

In many early manuscripts numerous wild-fire mixtures are incorrectly listed as Greek-fire and described with such fancifulness that some writers have been inclined to think of them as a form of blackpowder. This is not correct. Greek-fire which was invented by Callinicus, about 670 A.D., was a liquid mixture, the secret of which was so well preserved that, even today, no one knows exactly what its ingredients were. However, it can be assumed, from what we know of ancient items of commerce, that it most probably consisted of a petroleum product mixed with sulphur, resins, gums and possibly pitch. This was discharged from a hose or tube fixed in the bow of a ship, much in the same manner of a modern flame-thrower. This was a very terrible weapon and the Greeks used it to destroy an Arab invasion fleet in 718 A.D., of the 1,800 ships in this invasion force, only five escaped destruction.



EDITOR'S NOTES

An interesting note comes from Jim Gooding, of West Hill, Ontario. Jim has written several pieces dealing with firearms Canadiana and is currently writing a book on the subject. He relates that the introduction of the repeating rifle in the 1850's and 60's presented a problem which does not seem to have been considered by collectors. The ability to fire many shots in rapid succession would have been of little value if it were not possible to see the target--and the smoke from black powder would quickly obscure it. A solution to the problem is vividly described by W. J. Segraves. In March, 1870, he lost some cattle and with Hi Good, George Spires and Bill Sublett, trailed the Indian thieves until----

"As the Indians came abreast us, we motioned to the squaws to squat down, so as not to be in the line of fire. One old woman, when she saw that the group was covered, immediately did so. A young woman, next in line, freed herself of her pack in a flash and started to run. The old woman grabbed her by the dress and prevented her, evidently thinking that she would be shot if she tried to escape....The old Doctor, however, tried to get away. Good did the shooting, while I "called" the shots. The first two missed. At the third I called "distance". (meaning that the range was exactly right). At the fourth shot, the old Doctor collapsed. The weapons we used were sixteen-shot Henry repeaters, a new weapon at the time." Jim's source for this was "The Yana Indians" by T. T. Waterman, University of California, 1918.

#####

A milestone was reached and passed with the recent incorporation of the Saskatchewan Gun Collectors' Association. Our sincere thanks to Claude Burrows and the other members who worked to make this a reality. The S.G.C.A. constitution and bylaws will be reviewed at the March 25th membership meeting in Saskatoon.

#####

We have used up our present stock of S.G.C.A. crests and plan to have a new supply available by early summer. Meanwhile, please send in your orders to Secretary, Fred Osipoff, so we will know approximately how many to have made.

#####

We would like to extend our best wishes to Alberta's collecting fraternity on the formation of a new arms collectors' association. GOOD LUCK, men.

#####

We were happy to hear recently from E.J. Anderson, Editor of the Ontario Arms Collectors' Association Newsletter. The O.A.C.A. has invited us to exchange publications and information with a view to building a wider area of interest among the members in both associations. We have replied that we heartily endorse the idea.

#####

GUN TALK WITH FRED

Ran across a few notes on some 1st World War cannons the other day and the ballistics set me wondering. I am taking a chance printing these, what with the current magnum craze amongst the wildcatters. How about a deer rifle with the following ballistics:

A 14-inch bore, weight of gun 51 tons, range 19,000 yds., the shell weighs 1660 lbs., and contains 88 lbs. of explosive charge. Backing up the shell is 394 lbs. of powder.

A 16-inch bore, with a shell weighing 2400 lbs. Backing up the shell is 667 lbs. of powder, giving a velocity of 2250 f.p.s., and a range of 21 miles.

Well, on to bigger and better things. A couple of weeks ago I started to bisect various shells to see what made them tick, amongst other things. One of the shells to feel the ways of my ambitious filing was a 303 British, mk. VII. When I got to the bullet I was amazed to find a wood like compound in the tip of it. Wondering what this was all about I started looking into it and corresponded with Nick Krevosheia, of Edmonton on the subject.

Nick had the following information to relate and I am passing it along for readers of this magazine: The MK VII bullet was introduced on Nov. 3, 1910. To place the center of gravity back, and to stabilize the bullet in flight a compound core was used. Jute (compressed looks like wood) and Aluminum were used in the tip of the bullet.

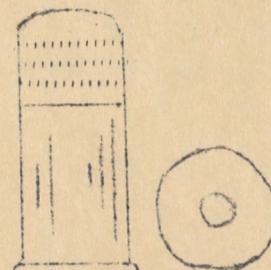
It seems that the Mk. VII bullet upsets very nicely upon contact with flesh and the damage is very severe, with cases of enemy soldiers having limbs etc., torn off. This bullet is illegal for hunting as it is a jacketed military bullet.

One further thing about this bullet, it is very similar to the Westley - Richards "Velopex" bullet designed back in 1897. It also had a compound core and was designed as a hunting bullet.

The cartridge that is drawn in scale to the right is the 500 revolver and carbine cartridge. This cartridge has a 25-32 inch case and is $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length overall.

I can find little information on this cartridge, but I would like to see one of the pistols chambered for it. It must be a dandy.

This cartridge is from my collection and has the following headstamp, "ELEY BROS".

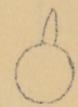


Notice the exposed unlubricated grease grooves that are above the case neck & exposed.

#####

BRITISH PATENT BULLET

FOR THE 1851 ADAMS PERCUSSION REVOLVER



BY JACK STEAD

Bullet Ball

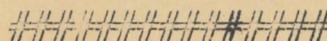
A double cavity brass mould, one of the accessories of a cased 1851 Adams percussion revolver, casts the unusual Adams patent bullet in two different forms.

One cavity is for round balls, the other for a rather short conical bullet with one deep cannelure. Both have a round, pointed projection, or spike, protruding from the centre of the base, which is about one-tenth of an inch in diameter at its thickest part and about one-quarter of an inch long.

The 1851 Adams revolver did not have a loading lever for ramming bullets firmly into the cylinder. Cylinder bores were oversize in diameter so that bullets or balls could be easily inserted by hand. To prevent a ball or bullet from rolling out of the "oversize" cylinder, a three-sixteenths of an inch thick was forced over the spike and pierced so that it abutted the bullet base. After the wad was in place, the end of the spike was peened (riveted might be a better word) to hold the wad firm. These greased wads may have been intended to act as a bore lubricator as well.

The bullet moulds for these bullets were made in three calibres-- .32, .44 and .50 for pistols, and in larger sizes for Adams revolving rifles. The mould in my possession is stamped "Registered R. Adams" in an oval around "28 Nov. 1851". In front of the oval is stamped "54", referring to the bore size of 54 balls to the pound, or, .44 calibre.

The success of these bullets can be judged from their relatively short life span. In less than five years after the advent of these odd-based bullets and balls, a loading lever was added to the Adams arm and conical flat-based bullets, tightly fitting the cylinder bores, were cast by the new mould brought out by the manufacturer.



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VIC ELLIS



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PH. 527-8082

have been paid and your name is not on the list let me know.

F. Osipoff, 2665 Winnipeg Street, Regina, Sask.
R. Phillips, 64 Bobolink Bay, Regina, Sask.
Ray King, 3602 Argyle Rd., Regina, Sask.
Mark King, 812 McCallum Hill Bld., Regina, Sask.
A. M. Provick, Hazelcliffe, Sask.
C. Hapke, Vangaurd, Sask.
Jack Stead, 2209 Dufferin Rd., Regina, Sask.
G. Burrows, 2168 Smith Street, Regina, Sask.
Norman Miller, Neudorf, Sask.
L. Tallentire, 3318 Dawson Cres., Regina, Sask.
R. Hill, 27 Fairford St. W. Moose Jaw, Sask.
L. Dobrescu, 58 Caribou St. W., Moose Jaw, Sask.
D. Brown, 4935 - 8th Ave., Regina, Sask.
W. Graham, Box 225 Wolsely, Sask.
B. Seib, Lipton, Sask.
W. Colley, 533 Ave. I, North, Saskatoon, Sask.
J. Rowan, Plenty, Sask.
J. Hamilton, 2100 Montague St., Regina, Sask.
B. Brooks, Kindersly, Sask.
J. Falloon, Box 120, Smeaton, Sask.
G. Kuttai, Box 309, Batt Leford, Sask.
E. Carlson, Box 39, Beatty, Sask.
W. Vansteelandt, Box 51, Eldersley, Sask.
A. Jardine, 4720 - 39th St. Lloydminster, Sask.
G. Ernewein, Meadow Lake, Sask.
W. Hamilton, Arcola, Sask.
G. Smith, 2521 Cumberland, Saskatoon, Sask.
J. Terhart, 1616 Grundein Cres., Estevan, Sask.
H. Wildman, Flaxcombe, Sask.
J. Gilling, Box 430, Boissevain, Man.
R. Chabot, Box 298, Ponteix, Sask.
M. Grunerud, Box 35, Wadena, Sask.
M. Gilling, 139 4th Ave., Yorkton, Sask.
K. Sanders, Box 14, Danbury, via Hyas, Sask.
R. Karp, Aneroid, Sask.
D. Wallace, 12 Franklin Ave., Yorkton, Sask.
W. Lutcher, 80 King St. W., Yorkton, Sask.
A. Orhein, Box 42, Bengough, Sask.
R. Nichols, 3035 Balfour Ave., Victoria, B.C.

M. Olmstead, Box 75, Sintaluta, Sask.
F. Murphy, 2526 York Ave., Saskatoon, Sask.
I. Gerbrand, 439 - 4th St. W., Shaunavon, Sask.
R. Hanlon, 146 - 7th St. N.W., Medicine Hat, Alta.
F. Palfy, 2909 South Railway Ave., Regina, Sask.
L. Reid, 2406 York Ave., Saskatoon, Sask.
L. Smith, 411 Isabella St. E., Saskatoon, Sask.
A. Olmstead, 305 McElmon, Saskatoon, Sask.
N. Andrews, Lennoxville, Que.
D. Minor, 624 Grey St., Regina, Sask.
E. Zander, 446 - 5th St. S.W., Medicine Hat, Alta.
S. Kirby, 708 - 18th Ave. E., Regina, Sask.
Sgt. A. Miller, c/o R.C.M.P., Calgary, Alta.
H. Lehman, Box 254, Warner, Alta.
D. Smith, Quapelle, Sask.
R. Gaudry, 4408 - 2nd Ave. N., Regina, Sask.
F. Harvey, Box 340, Rivers, Man.
G. Mountain, 2160 Olser St., Regina, Sask.
Y. Pohjavuori, Box 51, Estlin, Sask.
C. Bailey, Box 300, Clirax, Sask.
J. Jackson, 1034, - 117th Ave., Edmonton, Alta.
G. Curle, 435 Belmont Ave., West Kildonan, Manitoba.
F. Varty, Box 1328, Estevan, Sask.
N. Nagel, Box 226, Leader, Sask.
N. Krevoshcia, 12231 - 137th Ave., Edmonton, Alta.
R. Harvey, Ft. Quappelle, Sask.
D. Shclton, 2260 Garnet St., Regina, Sask.
T. Gates, Box 243, Sintaluta, Sask.
B. Broderick, R.C.M.P., Ponteix, Sask.
G. Hubenig, 2555 McKay Street, Regina, Sask.
W. Thomas, 12457 - 134th St., Edmonton, Alta.
A. Burke, Box 596, Yorkton, Sask.
A. Morley, 84 Bailey Drive, Yorkton, Sask.
G. Pebbles, 269 - 2nd Ave., Yorkton, Sask.
D. Lindstrom, Adena, Sask.
A. Anderson, Box 204, Wadena, Sask.
D. Gerard, Whitewood, Sask.
N. Barbeau, Box 250, Yorkton, Sask.
M. Korol, 124 - Ave. U, South, Saskatoon, Sask.
A. Johnston, Oyen, Alta.
T. Kirkland, c/o Dixie Gun Works, Union City, Tenn. U.S.A.

MORE NEW MEMBERS:

K. Wilson, 799 Wolseley Ave., Winnipeg, Man.
T. Stark, 506 New Hargrave Blk., 365 Hargrave St., Winnipeg, Man.
R. Rogers, Box 233, Nipawin, Sask.
R. Korpus, 1834 St John Street, Regina, Sask.
D. Steinhagen, 287 Marshal Bay, Fort Garry, Winnipeg, Man.
M. Ross, 2608 Wascana Street, Regina, Sask.
W. Howay, 374 Gladmar Park, Regina, Sask.
A. Johnston, 3805 Princess Drive, Ste. 9, Regina, Sask.
V. Ellis, 1510 Park Street, Regina, Sask.

YOU WILL NOTICE THAT THIS IS AN APPLICATION FORM WITH EACH COPY OF THE NEWSLETTER. WE WOULD LIKE EVERY MEMBER TO SIGN UP A NEW MEMBER. GIVE THE APPLICATION FORM TO A FRIEND AND GET HIM TO JOIN. WE WANT 200 MEMBERS BY THE END OF 1962.

SEE YOU AT SASKATOON

 MARCH 25TH 

REGINA COIN EXCHANGE

2160 OSLER ST. REGINA. SASK.

BUY ————— SELL ————— TRADE

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RIFLES

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EDGED WEAPONS

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*** GUN COLLECTORS' SPECIAL ***

Martini Enfield rifles Mark II Thumb Rest					
Short Lever, caliber 577/450	\$19.50
Martini Enfield Rifles Mark I Long Lever					
caliber 577/450	...	...	...	...	\$19.50
Lee Enfield No. 4 Military rifle as issued					
caliber .303 British	...	...	...	...	\$14.50
Lee Enfield Mark III Military rifle cal. 303 British					\$14.50
British Jungle Carbine No. 5 caliber .303	...	...	...	...	\$27.50
British Enfield Military rifle P-14, cal.303 British					\$24.50
British Enfield Military rifle P-17 (new) 30-06					\$34.50
S.M.L.E. No.1 Mark III caliber .22 Cadet Service					
rifle.	...	...	...	...	\$19.50
Lee Enfield Cavalry Carbine M1898 Mark I 5-shot					
Detachable Magazine caliber .303	...	...	...	...	\$29.50
Mannlicher-Schonauer rifle caliber 6.5, manu-					
factured by Steyr.	...	...	...	...	\$24.50
Mannlicher-Schonauer Carbine 6.5 manufactured					
by Steyr.	...	...	...	...	\$29.50
Austrian Model 95 Steyr Mannlicher rifle,					
Straight Pull caliber 8mm Austrian	...	...	...	...	\$ 9.50
Austrian Model 95 Steyr Mannlicher carbine;					
Straight Pull caliber 8mm Austrian	...	...	...	...	\$ 9.50
French Model 1907/15 Rifle caliber 8mm Lebel					\$ 9.50
French Model 1907/15 Carbine " 8mm Lebel					\$ 9.50
Italian Terni Carbine caliber 6.5mm					\$ 9.50
Italian Terni Mannlicher rifle caliber 6.5mm					\$ 8.50
Lee Enfield Single Shot 410 Musket, manufactured					
specially for the Pakistan Riot Police and					
Prison Guards	...	...	...	...	\$19.95
English Made Grenade Lauchers for Mark III					
rifles.	...	...	...	...	\$ 9.95
Khyber Pass "Counterfeit" Webley revolvers,					
caliber .38 made in Pakistan's Northwest					
Frontier.	...	...	...	...	\$19.50
Martini Lever Action Single Shot Pistols in					
.303 British caliber. Hand Engraved Designs.	...	...	...	...	\$29.50

Please select second choice if possible.

All other models rifles, shotguns, revolvers, pistols and ammunition.

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MODEL "M-10"

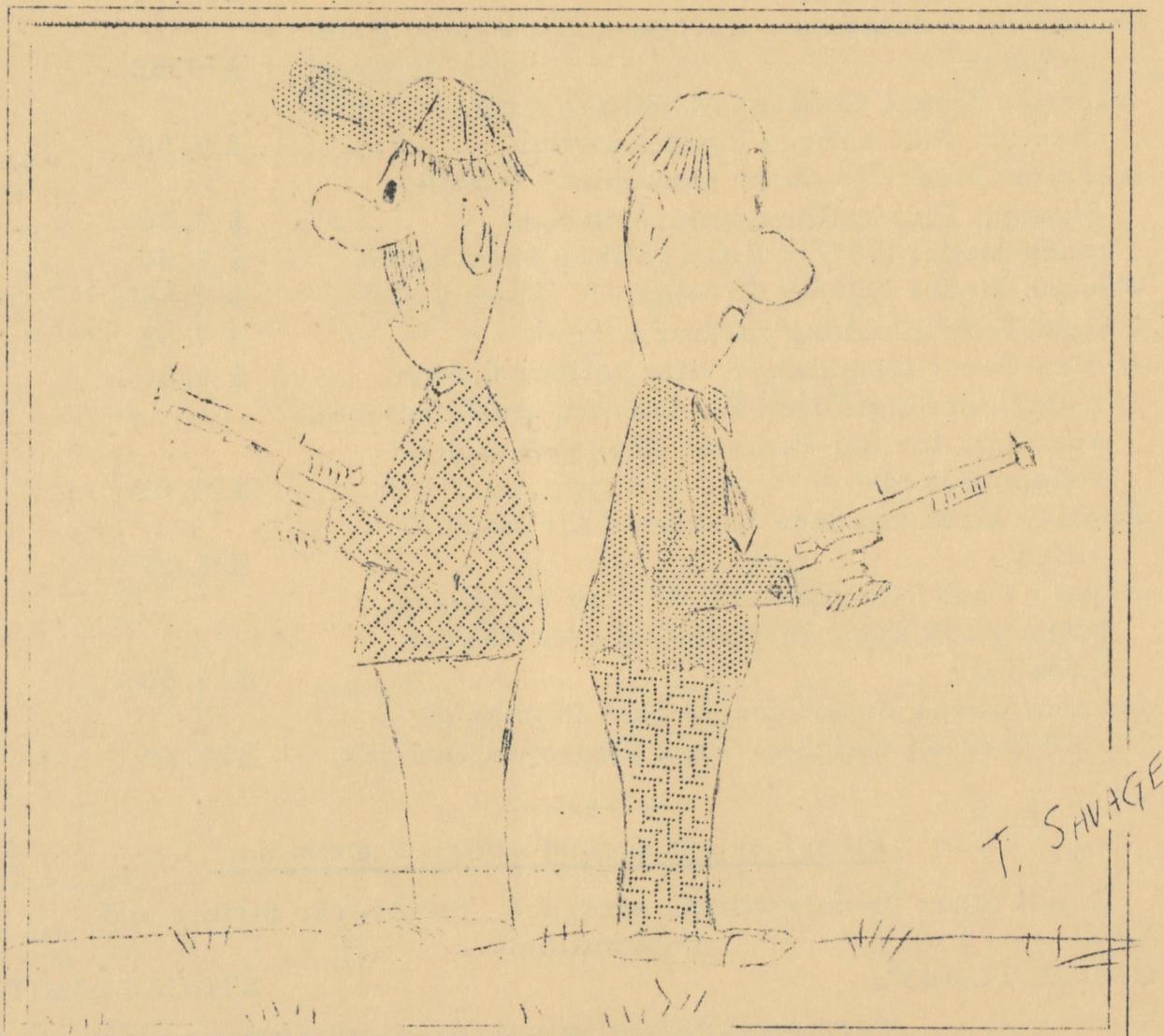
This was the last big-game sporting rifle brought out by Ross. Like the Sootch-Deer Stalking Pattern and "E-10" rifles, it used serrated locking lugs. It was beautifully hand finished.



Specifications

Cal. .280 Ross. Bbl. length, 26 or 28 ins.
Stock, selected Italian walnut. Weight, 7 lbs., 8 oz.
Magazine capacity, 4 cartgs. Rearsight, single fixed.
Foresight, Ross bead.

--TO BE CONTINUED--



I STILL THINK THAT THIS IS A HELL
OF A WAY TO BREAK THE TIE MATCH

SWAP SHOP

FOR SALE: Remington New Model Army .44 percussion revolver, believed unfired, about 75 percent original blue, has inspector's marks, perfect bore and operating condition, excellent, \$225.00. R. S. White, care of GUN TALK.

FOR SALE: M1892 Win. carbine, .44-40, \$50.00; M1892 Win. carbine, .25-20, \$35.00; Savage sporter, .25-20, \$20.00; Savage sporter, .32-20, \$25.00; .22 Browning pump with 4x scope, \$30.00; .22 Savage pump M1906, \$20.00; .22 Win. M1906 pump, \$20.00; .38 LONG, MARLIN barrel and action, 1861 BALLARD'S PAT. (offers?) Belgium muzzle loading shotgun, single barrel, \$30.00; .750 muzzle loading wall gun, rifled barrel, \$100.00. I. Gerbrand, Shaunavon, Sask.

FOR SALE: 8x Lyman target scope, with mounts and recoil absorber, \$60.00, or, trade for Stevens single shot rifle, old loading tools, bullet moulds, or, powder flasks. J. Livingstone, Box 171, Sintaluta, Sask.

FOR SALE: M1849 Colt perc. \$89.95; M1851 London Navy Colt perc. \$89.95; Colt Navy perc. \$69.95; Colt SAA .45 stamped "U.S." \$150.00; Colt S.A. Bisley, .44-40, \$75.00; Colt DA .32 (rare New Pocket mdl.) \$40.00. Permit necessary. R. Phillips, 64 Bobolink Bay, Regina, Sask.

SWAP: A dandy 233 page Winchester catalogue of 1929; an S & W #3, New Model shoulder stock; a variety of cartridge specimens, etc., for Canadian arms, ammo, literature, insignia; military equipment, any Canadiana. A. M. Provick, Hazelcliffe, Sask.

WANTED: Lugers, Luger carbine, pepperboxes, swords. Will trade new Browning guns of your choice on any of these items. Franchised dealer. Jack Rowan, Box 191, Plenty, Sask.

WANTED: Percussion Colts and pepperboxes. Will trade full stock percussion rifle; Whitney .31 calibre percussion revolver; Remington Wingmaster 12 gauge pump shotgun, matted rib, fancy stock, beavertail forearm. Dan Gaynor, 309 Balsam St. N., Timmins, Ont.

WANTED: M1873 or M1892 Winchester carbine in .44-40, or .38-40 calibre; .450 Adams Revolver, side-rod ejector model. R. Phillips, 64 Bobolink Bay, Regina, Sask.

WANTED: Stevens single shot rifles, need: Crackshot, with underlever; the Maynard Junior; and the Little Scout 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Also want other variations. J. Livingstone, Box 171, Sintaluta, Sask.

WANTED: High numbered Springfield action, Model 1903, with bolt and magazine. S. J. Kirby, 708 - 18 Ave., East, Regina, Sask.

PARTS I NEED: Hammer-sear and pin for M1886 Winchester, Wm. Hamilton, Box 106, Arcola, Sask.

PARTS I NEED: Loading gate and cartridge lifter for M1894 Winchester. Jan Terhart, 1616 Grundein Cres., Estevan, Sask.

PARTS I NEED: Loading gate for M1892 Win. .25-20; clip magazines for 1906 Savage .22 pump; clip magazines for "Savage Sporter" .25-20 bolt action; mainspring for 1906 Win. .22 pump. I. Gerbrand, Shaunavon, Sask.

NEW FOR '62: Revised lists of cartridges for sale and trade. Send 10¢ in stamps. Want Canadian-made cartridges, specializing in shot-shells. Need D.C.Co. catalogues, posters, boxes, etc., for research. I am seeking paper, needlefire, self-contained cartridges and wire patched bullets. Wish to contact other collectors. I UNDERSELL THE ARMY & NAVY STORE: Box lots of .30 Rem., .32 Rem., and .32/40 @ \$2.00; .32 L.C. B.P., @ \$3.50; .22 WRF and .22 Win. Auto. @ \$1.00,

.....also.....

- 218 Bee by REM-UMC 46 gr. hollow point, 42 in box \$7.00
- 218 Bee by SUPER SPEED primed empties, some reloads, 50 in box.. \$2.50
- 218 Bee mostly fired brass by SUPER SPEED..... \$1.25
- 218 Improved Bee, box of 50 fired cases \$1.25
- 218 Improved Bee reloads with 46 gr. SP safe loads intended for Sako..... \$5.00

Winchester M65, 218 Bee barrel with Marble open sights new \$20.00

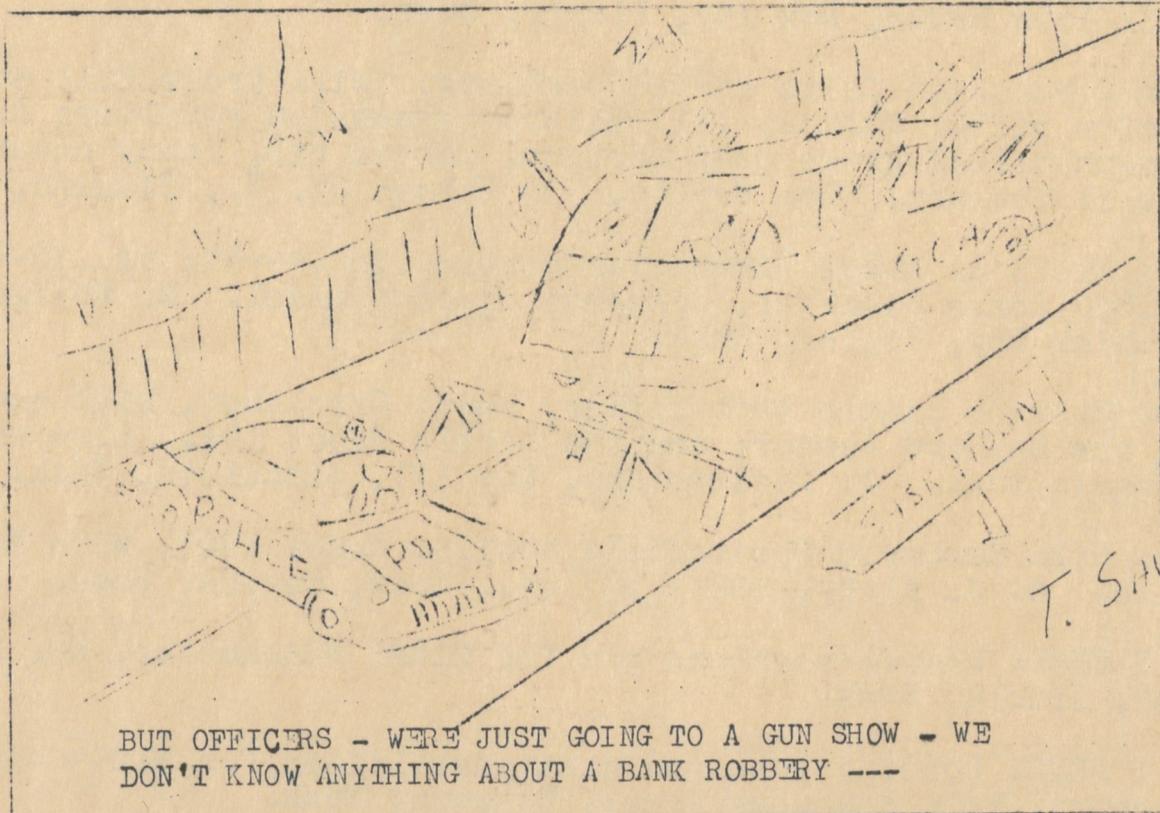
WRITE Nick Krevosheia, 12231 - 137th Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta.

FOR SALE: N.W.M.P. 303 Carbine, will take trade, write for details. Lloyd Tallentire, 3318 Dawson Cres., Regina, Sask.

WANTED: Winchesters, parts, guns, actions, anything.

FOR SALE: Browning F.N. de-lux sporter, cal. 270, 4X scope, \$100.00 cash or trade on Winchesters. Lloyd Dobrescu, 58 Caribou St. W., Moose Jaw, Sask.

FOR SALE: Information sheets as described in the last newsletter. Still only \$1.00 per hundred. F. Osipoff, 2665 Winnipeg Street, Regina, Sask.



NOTE: SORRY, WE HAD A PRODUCTION PROBLEM WITH THE ROSS PICTURES. REPRINTS WILL BE GOING OUT SHORTLY, WHICH YOU CAN INSERT IN YOUR GUN TALK.

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FOR COLLECTORS OF BRITISH MILITARY WEAPONS

Rare 577/450 Martini Henry Mark IV Rifles with long lever extractors. The long lever measures about $8\frac{1}{2}$ " against 5" on the more usual patterns. Complete with cleaning rod. Condition good in and out, some storage marks and dents. Grade 1 21.50 : Grade 2 19.50 : Grade 3 17.50

The more usual Mark II and III short lever 577/450 Martini Henry rifles are also available from stock at the same price.

Martini Enfield carbines, cal. 303. Made in India by native gunsmiths, fake acceptance and proof marks. Condition fair to good, with metal and woodwork showing the rather rough native handwork.. Rare collecting oddity \$19.50

577 Snider Enfield Cavalry Carbines, complete with cavalry swivel and two piece cleaning rod \$24.50

Lee Enfield Cavalry carbines, similar to the NWMP model, but the nose cap has been altered to take the Mark 1 bayonet. Stamped with the issue mark of the ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY .. Good condition and not the usual junk 29.50

#4 Lee Enfield Sniper Rifle complete with scope. Good condition \$54.50

Webley Mark VI Revolvers cal 455. Good condition \$15.00

THE LEE ENFIELD RIFLE By Major EGB Reynolds \$6.50. A must for the British Military Collector.

Westlet Richards Monkey Tail Carbine, breech loading percussion, .450 cal Whitworth barrel. Complete with ramrod and swivels. One brass bolt replaced otherwise condition very good. \$95.00.

Tower Percussion Pistol, Sea Service Model of 1842. Lock marked with the Crown VR "TOWER" with the woodwork stamped with the Board of Ordnance Mark and the Broad Arrow. 57 calibre, 6" barrel, swivel ramrod, brass trigger guard and butt cap. Good condition with slight rust marks \$75.00

Large percussion overcoat pistol by Jonothan Thomson of Edinburgh, converted from percussion by screw drum. 8" octagonal barrel, 75 cal, full stock with iron ramrod, brass furniture. Good condition 75.00

East India Company Dragoon Pistol, lock stamped with the rampant lion of the Company, barrel stamped with their acceptance mark. About 74 cal, 9" round barrel with swivel ramrod. Flat brass buttcap with large lanyard ring. Wood condition very good, some rust to metal. Price 65.00. These secondary British Military weapons are becomming increasingly scarce.

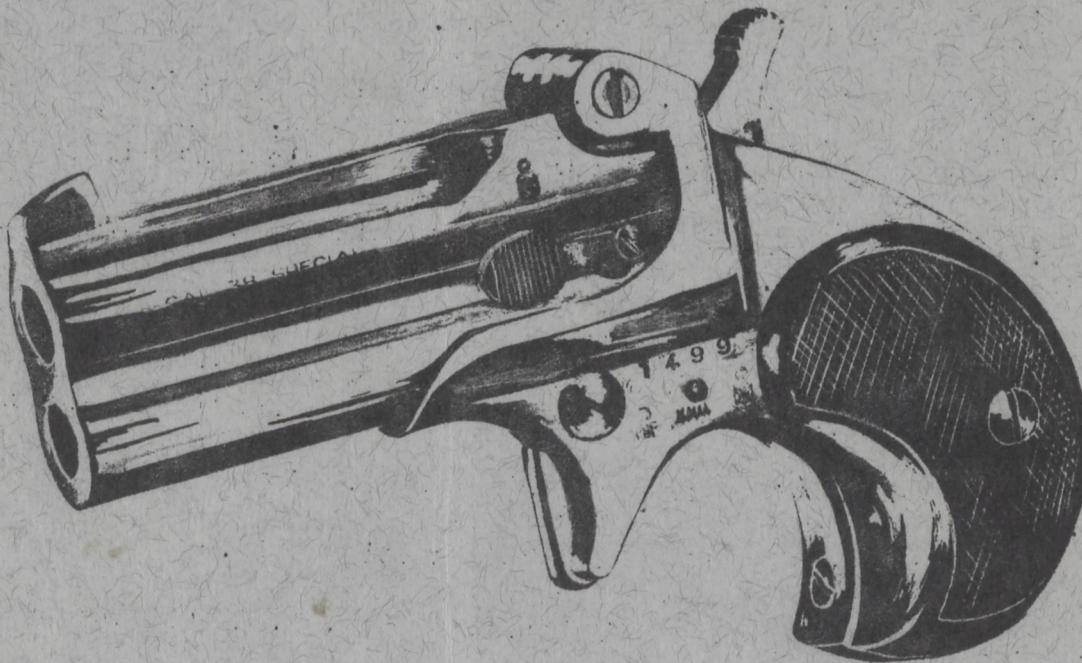
WE HAVE AN ENQUIRY FOR A READYMADE GUN COLLECTION OF AT LEAST 50 GUNS.
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SELLING, PLEASE GIVE AS FULL A DESCRIPTION AS POSSIBLE
AND THE PRICE..

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A HARD HITTING, DOUBLE BARREL POCKET GUN IN MAN SIZED 38 SPECIAL. STYLED AFTER THE ORIGINAL REMINGTON DOUBLE DERRINGER BUT WITH IMPROVED HIGH TENSILE STEEL, AND CHAMBERED FOR TODAY'S STANDARD POLICE CARTRIDGE.....



CALIBRE . FULL LOAD 38 SPECIAL

Two shots.

Case hardened steel frame.

Bright Blue 3" Barrel.

Made in Italy by a first line gunmaker, with each gun proof fired at the Brescia Proof House, under Italian Government Supervision.....

Price: \$ 35.00 in blue finish
 \$ 50.00 grade 1 engraved
 \$ 60.00 grade 2 engraved

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